

BETTY JANE OF THE CIRCUS  
Script No. 4 - June 25th  
LINWOOD ICE CREAM COMPANY

1936

CUE: (STATION BREAK - SPOT)

BIZ: CARNIVAL EFFECT...LION ROAR...BEHIND

VOICE: In-tro-duc-ing Betty Jane of the Circus!

THEME: BARNUM AND BAILEY FAVORITE...FADE TO

ANNOUNCER: Hello, boys and girls! We're all waiting to see what is happening to Betty Jane - what has happened in the menagerie tent - to findout what caused the door between the cages of Cora, the tiger, and Sultan, the lion, to be opened. (PAUSE) I know that at least fifty-two people listening to Betty Jane's program tonight will bear me out when I tell you that LINWOOD ICE CREAM is the best-tasting ice cream ever. Those fifty-two, along with thousands and thousands of other Kansas City boys and girls, know that LINWOOD ICE CREAM that they get at their BETTY JANE SHOPS is really fine-flavored, delicious! The fifty-two we speak about are those who got those quarts, pints and ice cream cones of LINWOOD ICE CREAM given by BETTY JANE from the Betty Janes Shop at 3900 Brooklyn last night. You know, Betty Jane is going to give away fifty-two prizes to her listeners every single evening she is on the air! - and with that many prizes to be given away you will all have excellent chances to win when your own Neighbourhood BETTY JANE SHOP is the chosen shop. I'll tell you again right after tonight's episode just what you do to get one of those fine prizes of LINWOOD ICE CREAM - and, take it from me, it's simple and easy. There are no puzzles to work - letters to write or cartons to send in. Everyone can win - and I'll tell you how right after Betty Jane's adventure. I hope you all have had a chance to get around to your neighbourhood BETTY JANE SHOP to buy a pint or quart



ANNOUNCER: (CONTINUED)

of good-tasting LINWOOD ICE CREAM or a big, double-dip ice cream cone. Be sure to remind your mother and dad that there is a BETTY JANE SHOP right in your own neighbourhood - they'll be glad to hear that, because they know that BETTY JANE SHOPS serve LINWOOD ICE CREAM and they know that LINWOOD is made by the Aines Dairy - has been for fourteen years. Mother and dad will be glad to know that you are eating plenty of healthy, energy-giving ice cream because it contains milk and cream, which you all know builds strong, husky bodies. (PAUSE) And now for BETTY JANE OF THE CIRCUS. Last night we heard of how Mr. Otto, the head Animal-trainer of the Harnum Brothers Circus, had been knocked out by an unknown assailant - and even before he had a chance to fully recover, old MIKE had come running, telling Otto that the door between the lion and the tiger had been opened by somebody - and that the two big animals were fighting. Tonight we find Betty Jane, her mother, Mr. Otto and Mr. Harnum in the menagerie tent just after the two beasts had been forced back in their own cages and the separating door closed. Let's listen now -

BIZ: ZOO EFFECT...HOLD BEHIND DIALOG

BETTY: Gee, Mr. Otto - do you think that Sultan and Cora are hurt very badly?

OTTO: It was a bad fight, Betty Jane - they are both scarred up - ya! You can't see any marks on Sultan because of his long mane - but I'll betcha he has as many as Cora.

MOTHER: Cora is bleeding in several places. See?

HARNUM: Otto, something has to be done - this is getting terrible. We can't keep the news of this from them - and they're jittery enough as it is.



BETTY:            Do you think that someone purposely unlatched the door between Sultan and Cora?

OTTO:            Ya - ya, that door I latched myself just after they were put back in the cages.

MOTHER:          That was just after they went on, wasn't it?

HARNUM:          That makes me more certain than ever that these animals getting out of cages are not just by chance - by accident.

BETTY:            That could have been an accident, could it, Mr. Otto?

OTTO:            Ach, nein! Look here. The door in that cage is fastened just like this one here is.

MOTHER:          You mean with a bolt dropped down in the hasp like that.

OTTO:            Ya! It is exactly the same in Sultan's cage. A lion could never lift it out of place.

BETTY:            It couldn't fall out by accident either.

HARNUM:          This is definite proof that human hands are in on this - this diabolic plot, whatever it is.

BETTY:            Then man who hit Mr. Otto could have come straight over to the menagerie tent right after he got rid of Mr. Otto.

MOTHER:          That's right - he was heading this way when Otto was following him.

BETTY:            Then Mr. Dirty couldn't have done both things. I saw him in the main tent - with the rest of the people.

MOTHER:          You must be right about Dirty, Mr. Harnum?

HARNUM:          I don't think you have to suspect Dirty any more.

BETTY:            - But he sleeps in that third bunk-car -

MOTHER:          There are eleven other men sleeping there, though.

HARNUM:          Yes - and I'm going to look up the list of who those men are. I've a pretty good idea that our culprits (or at least one of them) are in that car.

MOTHER:          Most in that car are property boys and stringers I think.



OTTO: Riley, the boss canvasman, is in number three.

MOTHER: We can be reasonably sure that the trouble-maker is one of the lot.

OTTO: I still think Dirty is mixed up in this somehow - even in spite of what you think, Mr. Harnum.

BETTY: Maybe whoever did this did it to attract our attention here while they did something someplace else.

MOTHER: (LAUGHING) That sounds awfully confused, Betty Jane.

HARNUM: I see what she means - and she may be right, at that. But if it's a canvasman or even a stinger or property boy they'll be missed when we break tonight.

MOTHER: They're starting to break now. I heard some side-poles fall just a moment ago.

OTTO: Ach - then we're safe for a little while yet.

MOTHER: - And that's some consolation!

HARNUM: What we'd better do now is get the list of the men in bunk-car number three.

BETTY: I could run and get it if you'd tell me where it is.

HARNUM: Would you do that, Betty Jane? It'd help a lot.

BETTY: Sure.

HARNUM: Steamboat Warren over in the pie car has it. Tell him I sent you for it.

BETTY: (GOING AWAY) I'll be just a minute, Mr. Harnum.

OTTO: Ah - a fine girl!

MOTHER: (AFTER PAUSE) I didn't want to mention it while Betty Jane was here - but didn't you think it strange the way that fight ended.

OTTO: Ya - I was going to mention that. I was completely dumbboozled.

MOTHER: Betty Jane ran in the tent ahead of us and yelled at Sultan -



HARNUM: Yes, and Sultan seemed to hear her - and stopped fighting. After that Mike didn't have the least trouble getting him back in his own cage.

MOTHER: It might have been that Betty Jane's shrill voice frightened him.

OTTO: Ach, impossible! Many animals in this very tent make almost the same sounds.

MOTHER: (THOUGHTFULLY) Yes - yes, that's true.

HARNUM: I give up. I can't account for it - unless Sultan knows that Betty Jane isn't afraid of him. That often cows an animal - to know that some human is not afraid of him.

MOTHER: Do you really think that could have done it. Betty Jane isn't afraid of lions - hasn't been since she had that lion cub years ago.

OTTO: I'm like you, Mr. Harnum. I give up, too. I can't figure all this out.

MOTHER: You'll have to put somebody on guard in the animal tents until all this trouble is over, Mr. Harnum.

HARNUM: I intend to do exactly that. I have a feeling that we've about reach the end of this business.

MOTHER: Do you think this mystery - all these mysteries, are about to be cleared up?

OTTO: You can be sure that Otto Schultze will not sleep until all is calm and peaceful again.

MOTHER: Oh! Look! Look up there. Something is moving up~~x~~ near the top of the center-pole.

OTTO: What! (STARTS TO LAUGH) Ya, ya - it is Betty Jane's raincoat - and I'd be willing to bet that I can guess what is holding it up there.

MOTHER: What!?



OTTO: (LAUGHING) Bumpus!

MOTHER: (ALSO LAUGHING) Bumpus? Well, that little heathen!

HARNUM: Is that monkey stealing things again?

MOTHER: Betty Jane told me that Otto thought Bumpus had taken her raincoat. I think you told me that yourself, Otto.

OTTO: Ya - he has taken things from me. (CALLING) Hey! You little rascal, drop that coat.

MOTHER: (LAUGHING) Look how he's peeking around from behind the coat.

OTTO: (CALLING) Drop it!

BIZ: COAT DROPPING

MOTHER: Look at him scramble out thru the top vent!

HARNUM: I'll tan him good the next time I catch him.

BETTY: (COMING IN) Here is that list, Mr. Harnum. Mr. Warren says he thinks it's accurate - he's making up the payroll from it.

HARNUM: Thanks, Betty Jane. Now, we can check up on that situation.

MOTHER: Here's your raincoat, dear - Bumpus had it just like Mr. Schultz guessed.

OTTO: Let me look at that list with you, Mr. Harnum.

(PAUSE)

BETTY: Does that list help any?

HARNUM: I can't tell yet. I can't quite place some of these fellows by their names. Can you remember some of them, Mrs. West?

MOTHER: Let me look at the list. (PAUSE) Gordon; he's that nice-looking property boy. He was in the tent when you were speaking. I saw him.

HARNUM: There's one fellow marked "Missing" - Beltoni. That's the way Steamboat marks the ones that jumped the show. Funny, though, this fellow didn't collect his pay before he hopped.

MOTHER: That is strange, isn't it?



HARNUM: Yes; rather. He left sometime during this past week because Steamboat always makes up fresh sheets for the week.

BETTY: I saw Clancy when I came in to talk to you, Mr. Harnum.

HARNUM: I guess I can check him off the list.

MOTHER: You can mark Weaver off, too. Remember, somebody missed him and he yelled out?

HARNUM: Yes, that checks him off.

BETTY: Tipsy Jewell is real short - the fellow Mr. Otto and I saw was kind of tall.

HARNUM: That checks him off. Let's see, now. That makes Gordon, Clancy, Weaver, Jewell, Dirty - that's five of them. We've got seven more to account for; Hope, Levitow, Benson, Dukelsky, Dennis, Mahoney and Yunkle.

MOTHER: I don't know any of them.

BETTY: Neither do I.

OTTO: I know Dukelsky - but I couldn't be sure whether he was the one or not.

MOTHER: What are you going to do no, Mr. Harnum?

HARNUM: I think I'll go over and see what Steamboat knows about these fellows. He might be able to help. (GOING AWAY) I'll be back in a little while.

(PAUSE)

OTTO: Mr. Harnum is looking terribly worried lately.

MOTHER: He has plenty to make him look that way.

BETTY: I wish we could do something to help him.

OTTO: Ya, so do I. I wonder what is bothering Stella?

MOTHER: She's pulling at her stake.

BETTY: Maybe she's afraid of something.

OTTO: Ya - elephants get frightened when the lights start going out around them.



BETTY:            Why is that, Mr. Otto?

MOTHER:        I've often wondered that, too, Otto. Why the biggest and strongest animal in the circus is always afraid of little things like the dark - and cats and dogs.

OTTO:           Ach - elephants is just big. Inside they are just like little babies. They are always looking for someone to follow - someone to trust.

BETTY:        Like Stella? She's the leader of all the elephants in the circus, isn't she?

OTTO:        Sure - but Even Stella is always looking for someone to follow. She is easy to frighten like the rest.

MOTHERS:      Elephants seem to be different from the other animals in lots of ways.

OTTO:        They are different. So helpless. Lions and tigers must find someone to fear before they will behave - elephants must find someone to trust.

MOTHER:      Stella has quieted down again.

OTTO:        Ya - maybe she just saw a cat - or maybe a mouse. She is about the age when elephants get restless - around twenty-five or thirty.

BETTY:        Stella has been pretty bad lately, hasn't she, Mr. Otto?

OTTO:        Not bad - just restless.

MOTHER:      Stella hasn't been matron long. Only since Soto died.

OTTO:        Ya - it bothers her that she hasn't anyone to follow.

BETTY:        Is that why the herd has stampeded lately?

OTTO:        Probably yes.

BETTY:        Why do little things scare elephants, Mr. Otto?

OTTO:        Well, it seem to be something they've carried down to 'em for thousands of years. I think mice are the cause of it.



MOTHER: People always say elephants are afraid of mice. Are they, really?

OTTO: Ya, ya - a mouse will run up inside their trunks, dig its claws in so that the elephant can't blow it out - and then it's gangrene for sure.

BETTY: Will that hurt an elephant, Mr. Otto?

OTTO: Ach, ya - it will kill him. The tissues in the trunk are real thin and delicate.

MOTHER: No wonder a mouse will cause a stampede - if the elephants know that.

OTTO: And they do.

MOTHER: I never believed that that time the herd stampeded in Chicago was caused by a cat. Was that so?

OTTO: Sure. A cat came up behind Soto and he started running. (LAUGHING) I will never forget how Soto rounded up the herd when he realized how silly it was to run from a cat. You should have seen the sheepish look on his face - the way he hung his head when he led the other elephants back. It was - Oh! there comes, Mr. Harnum!

BETTY: Mr. Otto has been telling us about elephants, Mr. Harnum.

MOTHER: He's told me lots of things I never knew about them.

HARNUM: (COMING IN) Is Stella been acting up again, Otto.

MOTHER: She was stirring a little.

OTTO: Just restless, that's all.

MOTHER: Otto was just telling about the stampede in Chicago.

HARNUM: I remember that. I've just been over to talk to Steamboat. He doesn't know much about those fellows.

BETTY: You mean the ones in car three that we don't know?

HARNUM: I don't know what we can do tonight.



MOTHER: You might just let it go for tonight - they can't do any harm here - and look at them when they get out of the car at Shelbyville tomorrow morning.

HARNUM: That sounds like a good plan.

BETTY: You could jump on the car before they get up and look them over. You might be able to tell something about them before they get completely awake.

OTTO: Ya - that sounds like a good idea.

HARNUM: I think I'll do that.

BETTY: Shhhhh!

MOTHER: (WHISPERING) What's the matter, Betty Jane?

BETTY: I think someone is listening over there behind that flap.

OTTO: (ALSO WHISPERING) I'll sneak over and surprise him.

MOTHER: Be careful!

(PAUSE)

OTTO: (AWAY) Well, what are you doing here?

McCoy: I - I'm taking down this tent.

HARNUM: Who are you, young man?

McCoy: Mc Coy is my name.

HARNUM: What's the number of your bunk-car?

McCoy: Eight.

HARNUM: Why were you eavesdropping? (PAUSE) Well?

McCoy: I wasn't listening - I - I was getting ready to take down the tent.

HARNUM: That's not a very likely story. You don't take down the tent until the animals are out - and besides you'd have to have some help with that job.

ANNOUNCER: Well, that's a surprising development - a man eavesdropping. And someone we have had no cause to suspect before this.



ANNOUNCER: (CONTINUED)

Do you think that he could be responsible for the slugging of Dirty and Mr. Otto - or for letting the animals out of the cages - or maybe for the robberies? Well, we'll just have to wait until tomorrow to find out - when the circus moves on to Shelbyville. (PAUSE) Now I'm ready to start fifty-two of you to a BETTY JANE SHOP to get free LINWOOD ICE CREAM. In case you didn't hear them last night I'm going to repeat the instructions - and list the prizes. In just a moment I'll give you the address of one of the neighbourhood BETTY JANE SHOPS - and when you hear the address and find that it's one close to home, get your mother or dad - or some adult - to take you to that store. If you are one of the first fifty-two to get to the BETTY JANE SHOP named you'll get some of that good-tasting, rich LINWOOD Ice Cream absolutely free. All you do is just ask the clerk to give it to you; tell him you heard the announcement on the radio. The first three to arrive will each win two quarts of LINWOOD; the next four will get one quart each; the next twenty will get a pint - and the next twenty-five will get ice cream cones made with that full-flavored LINWOOD ICE CREAM. Fifty-two sure winners! That means that every boy and girl near the store named will want to be ready with some adult to go. Every boy or girl must have an adult along to win one of the fifty-two delicious prizes. You can be looking up the address of your nearest Betty Jane Shop so that you'll be ready to go when I name the prize Shop tonight. Those of you who do not get a chance at one of the swell prizes tonight may be the lucky ones tomorrow - because BETTY JANE is giving away fifty-two



ANNOUNCER: (CONTINUED)

prizes of LINWOOD ICE CREAM every evening she is on the air. So you'll want to listen to BETTY JANE OF THE CIRCUS every single night. Now! Here is the address of the BETTY JANE SHOP at which you may get your free LINWOOD ICE CREAM this evening. Go to 4301 Independence Ave  
Good luck to all of you - and remember to eat plenty of healthful LINWOOD ICE CREAM you get at your own BETTY JANE SHOP.

BIZ: CARNIVAL EFFECT...BEHIND

ANNOUNCER: What will happen when Mr. Harnum checks up on the men in car 3 at Shelbyville the next morning? You'll find out when BETTY JANE OF THE CIRCUS returns tomorrow evening at 7:45. So long, boys and girls!

THEME: BARNUM AND BAILEY TO CUE